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SOME NOTES ON SMITH, STROTHER, HOUSTON
AND JONES.

By HENRY STROTHER, Fort Smith, Arkansas.

In your Vol. XXI., No. 3, Jan., 1913, p. 204, is a query from me in regard to "*Park Smith*," some very interesting old letters and family records have been *dug up*, which show that he was son of Francis Smith & Elizabeth Waddy, of Hanover, & Francis Smith was son of *Dr. John Smith*, & giving parents of Elizabeth Waddy, &c., also showing that Col. William Preston² (John¹), m. Susannah Smith, sister of this Park Smith, and hence she is the ancestress of all the great Prestons of the South, statesmen, governors, generals, &c. I have intended to prepare as short an answer to that query as I well could and send it to you for publication if you deemed it worthy.

In Aug., Sept. and Oct., 1912, I spent *nine weeks* searching records, &c., in Ky. & Va.

In Clks. office in Bowling Green, Ky., I found the *original will* (record book gone), of Robert Strother,⁴ bro. of Capt. John⁴ (Francis,³ Wm.² Wm.¹), & this Robert is the ancestor of many prominent Strothers of Ky. & Mo., who do not know their ancestry back of this Robert's son, John Dabney Strother, of Nelson Co., Ky.

I spent five days in office in Culpeper and found some records the kind Clerk said were not there. I spent 13 days in the office at Staunton, & found an immense amount of *Huston* (& Houston) data, I found the original will of "*John Huston*," the Immigrant, ancestor of Gen. Sam Houston, & other prominent Houstons. I got a certified copy of this will and traced the signature. I spent 4 days at Lexington, and traced the original signatures of Gen. Sam's parents. The father's sig. was the greatest I found in Va. & the mother's showed much character. Gen Sam was no accident.

I spent *ten days* with my good old cousins, Judge P. W. Strother and his good wife, at their mountain home near Pearisburg, and must say it was the visit of my life.

I spent a week in Richmond, and secured much valuable data from the Land Office there. At Staunton I traced the original signatures of Gabriel Jones, "the Valley Lawyer," Hon. Thomas Lewis, John Madison, first Clk. of Augusta, & father of Bishop Madison, et. al., *Anthony Strother*,³ (Wm.,² Wm.¹), b. 1710, d. 1765, merchant at Fredericksburg, ancestor of "Porte Crayon" who died without knowing *which Anthony* was his ancestor. He scattered broadcast the statement that his ancestor was Anthony, son of "Francis of St. Mark's Parish," whom he said was son of Jeremiah, &c., when he was absolutely wrong, Francis' son Anthony, was b. about 1734, *m.* Frances Eastham. & d. in Hardy Co., Va. I have stacks of data from his descendants. I have spent thirty odd yrs. examining county records & land titles & I claim to be an expert of the experts in finding what I want.

JOHNSON FAMILY.

(See QUARTERLY, XXI., 44-47.)

It is shown from QUARTERLY, XXI., page 99, that Col Rich- and Johnson came from Bilsby, County Lincoln, England, where the parish register might tell more of his family if examined. An account given some years ago by Mrs. Mary Ann Gifford, daughter of Chapman Johnson and granddaughter of Thomas Johnson "Minor" enables the pedigree to be written more exactly. Thus:

1. COL. RICHARD¹ JOHNSON, of King and Queen Co. (died 1699) by a wife in England had issue: 2. Judith, who married Sir Hardoff Westneys, Baronet, son of Sir Edmund Wastneys, who married Catherine Sandys, great-granddaughter of Edwin Sandys, archbishop of York. Sir Edmund Wastneys was a nephew of Sir Hardoff Wastneys, who married a niece of Sir Henry Chicheley, Governor of Virginia from 1678-1680. The first named Sir Hardoff Wastneys died 17 Dec., 1742, without issue, and the baronetcy became extinct. By a "second venter"